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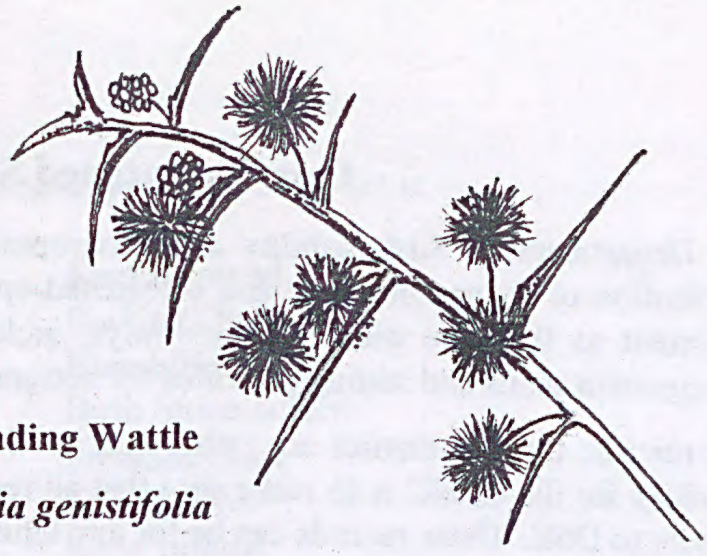

Spreading Wattle
Acacia genistifolia

Native Trees and Shrubs of Castlemaine

The launching of the new Castlemaine Field Naturalist Club publication "Native Trees and Shrubs of Castlemaine" was very well attended (40+) and very informative. The excursion included a walk in the Andrew St, Lyttleton St, Mostyn St, Urquhart St area; a walk in the William St area; and a walk along Maclise St.

With over 50 species of Eucalypt and 26 species of Acacia, along with examples of Angophora (Gum Myrtle), Banksia, Callistemon (Bottlebrush), Casuarina and Allocasuarina (She-oak), Grevillea, Hakea, Leptospermum (Tea-tree), Melaleuca (Honey Myrtle and Paperbark) and several other interesting species in this new publication, there was much to see and learn. The four pages are a treasure trove providing excellent key information with each entry, including some brief notes to assist identification and sample locations where plants can be viewed. This leaflet could be used for identification of individual species, for a self guided local tour and it would be invaluable as a starting point for further study of native trees and shrubs.

All those who participated are sure to be looking at the streets of Castlemaine through new eyes – even as the tour was underway new specimens of interest were being discovered! Congratulations Ern and Lesley on another excellent publication.

Other useful Castlemaine Field Naturalist Club Publications include:
Eucalypts of the Castlemaine District
Geological Features of the Castlemaine District
Where to find birds in the Mt Alexander Shire
Bird List of the Mt Alexander Shire
Common Native Grasses
Mistletoes of the Castlemaine District
Acacias
Castlemaine plants for Castlemaine Gardens
Ferns of the Mt Alexander Shire
Common Orchids of the Castlemaine District
These publications are available for sale at the Library, the Market building and at our monthly meetings.

Geraldine Harris

Our Threatened Species.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) maintain records of the distribution of vulnerable, rare and threatened species (VROTS). These records are important as they are used in many ways, including planning, the preparation of management plans and setting priorities for actions to conserve biodiversity.

The records for our district are rather sparse. One of the most useful conservation activities for the CFNC is to make sure that all records of rare and threatened species are sent to DSE. These records can be for any kind of land tenure.

Birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians: Fill out a form from the Atlas of Victorian Wildlife. You need the Atlas kit with codes and details of the procedure. Records can be sent to the Atlas of Victorian Wildlife, PO Box 137, Heidelberg Vic, or DSE at Bendigo (Deanna Marshall).

Plants. Fill out a plant VROT form. Send to DSE Bendigo (Deanna Marshall).

In addition DSE Forest Stewardship is preparing a management plan for the forests it manages (e.g. the firewood areas). It is also seeking reports of rare and threatened species. Records for DSE managed forests should be reported on the *Forest Stewardship* forms supplied by DSE. There are separate forms for plants and animals. Completed forms should be sent to DSE Forest Stewardship, Bendigo (Mary Camilleri).

General records are also of value, so that all of our wildlife is recorded. If you go to a specific locality e.g. the Quince tree, and make a species list, then send this in also. Animals should be recorded on the Atlas form. Plant lists can be sent in as a list on plain paper.

Generally, all lists need the location to be specified, either as latitude and longitude, or Easting and Northing. Use a survey map or GPS for this, or seek help.

How you can help.

1. Obtain a supply of forms and enter your records, or
2. Volunteer to be a filler-in of the forms, using information given by club members or during excursions, etc.
3. Pass your records to the volunteers. You need to record where the plant or animal was seen and the date (as the database contains this information).

I have supplies of the various record sheets, some Atlas Kits and lists of threatened species. I can also give you the map references for your observation site.

Let's make this our project for the year.

Many of our birds are on the list of threatened species. A short list is -

Critically endangered
Plains Wanderer
Regent Honeyeater

Vulnerable
Australasian Shoveller
Brolga
Common Sandpiper
Diamond Firetail
Great Egret
Grey Goshawk
Hardhead
Lewins Rail
Painted Honeyeater
Musk Duck
Powerful Owl
Speckled Warbler
Royal Spoonbill
White-bellied Sea-eagle
White-browed Treecreeper

Endangered
Barking Owl
Blue-billed Duck
Bush Stone-curlew
Freckled Duck
Grey Falcon
Little Bittern
Little Egret
Grey-crowned Babbler
Swift Parrot

Near-threatened
Black-chinned Honeyeater
Black-eared Cuckoo
Brown Quail
Crested Bellbird
Hooded Robin
Nankeen Night-heron
Pied Cormorant
Whiskered Tern

Ern Perkins

Editors Note: The excursion to Jackass Flat reserve on 14/8/04 will serve as a training day for members wishing to learn the correct procedures for registering threatened species records. * List of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna included with August Naturalist 28.7#313

Kimberleys - Chris Morris – 9/7/04

Chris Morris has visited the Kimberley region on two occasions and it was clear from his slides that it is a place everyone should visit at least once in a lifetime. Chris's latest visit was for 18 days from late April until early May.

For his talk, Chris concentrated on the central area of the Kimberleys, in particular the area along the Gibb River Road showing slides of a range of animals, birds and outback landscapes. Much of the area has been subject to grazing and in some cases this has led to widespread degradation of the land. Despite this, the rugged beauty of the area is still evident today, especially along some of the beautiful rivers and escarpments that have been carved out of the land by the passage of time.

We saw Osprey, Brolga, Jabiru, Green Pygmy-geese, Whistling-ducks, Long-tailed Finches, a Bush Stone-curlew, Australian Bustard, White-throated Honeyeater, Great

Bowerbird , White-quilled Rock Pidgeon and a Spinifex Pidgeon. There were wattles, freshwater mangroves, boab trees and beautiful waterlilies.

Leaving the Gibb River Road and travelling toward the Mitchell Plateau there were Bloodwood Trees, Elephant-eared Wattle, Purple-crowned Fairy-wren (which are now rare), Double-barred Finch, Rufus-throated, Brown and Banded Honeyeaters, Northern Rosellas, Red-winged Parrots, a Black-eared Cuckoo and Pheasant Coucal.

At Bell River the guide was able to call up Barking Owls and Chris added to his list Black-tailed Treecreeper, Blue-faced Honeyeater (once common in the Bendigo street trees), Star Finch, Masked Finch and Wood swallow. At Mount House Chris was fortunate to see Gouldian Finch (red-headed and black-headed), and he also saw Black-breasted Bustard, Square-tailed Kite and Crimson Finch.

It was easy to see why Chris made a second visit and I feel sure those among us who haven't yet visited this area, have their calandars out planning a trip!

Geraldine Harris

Five Foxes Frolicking

On the July 15, I was walking along the busy Midland Highway near Merrifield Road. In broad daylight (10am) and in an open paddock, I saw a fox "pack" of at least five animals. Two pretty motley specimens were mating and the other three, which had better fur and brush tails, ran to seek shelter in the gorse by Barkers Creek.

Nina Cole

Emu Encounter

Stepping up onto a sandy rise in the Jillpanger Nature Reserve (30 km south of Mt Arapiles), I disturbed a male emu and on closer inspection discovered he had abandoned seven large green eggs! I took a couple of photos before moving away to allow the father to return to his duties.

Natasha Harris

Thargominda

After calling briefly at Thargominda in 2001, and deciding against going that way in 2002 because it was so dry, we enquired at Charleville this year and finding there was some water in Lake Bindagolly, we decided to visit Thargominda for a couple of days. Thargominda has a population of 400 and is about 200km west of Cunnamulla, which is about 200 kms west of St George, which is about 530 kms west of Brisbane.

We'd seen much evidence of drought throughout the whole trip, so were pleasantly surprised to see the green under the trees not far out of Cunnamulla.. There were still very few birds and kangaroos, which had been abundant on the two previous trips, and there were many patches of dead Mulga. The Western Bloodwoods were a mass of pink buds, and one or two trees were coming in to flower.

Advisory List of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna 2003

(from DSE list, 2003)

This list has been prepared by panels with a broad experience in each vertebrate class.

EPBC (Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999) rankings are given in column 1.

EX: Extinct; there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died.
EN: Is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.
VU: Is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
CD: Is dependent on a particualr conservation program, the cessation of which would make the taxon endangered within 5 years.

FFG (Flora and Fauna Guarrantee Act 1998) rankings are given in column 2.

L: Listed
N: Nominated but not yet fully considered.
I: Taxon does not meet the requirements for listing
* In part

[Strictly, near-threatened species are not threatened]

Birds

Regionally Extinct	EN	
Night Parrot		
Critically Endangered		
Australian Bustard		L
Grey-tailed Tattler		L
Helmeted Honeyeater	EN	L
Intermediate Egret		L
King Quail		L
Orange-bellied Parrot	EN	L
Painted Snipe	VU	L
Plains-wanderer	VU	L
Regent Honeyeater	EN	L
Western Whipbird	VU	L
Endangered		
Australasian Bittern		L
Barking Owl		L
Black-browed Albatross		I
Black-eared Miner	EN	L
Blue-billed Duck		L
Bush Stone-curlew		L
Eastern Bristlebird	EN	L
Fairy Tern		L
Freckled Duck		L
Great Knot		L
Grey Falcon		L
Grey-crowned Babbler		L
Ground Parrot		L
Gull-billed Tern		L
Little Bittern		L
Little Egret		L
Malleefowl	VU	L
Masked Owl		L
Red-lored Whistler	VU	L
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	EN	L
Redthroat		L
Superb Parrot	VU	L
Swift Parrot	EN	L
Terek Sandpiper		N
Wandering Albatross	VU	L
Vulnerable		
Australasian Shoveller		
Baillon's Crake		L
Black Bittern		L
Black Falcon		

Black-tailed Godwit		L
Brolga		L
Chestnut-rumped Heathwren		L
Common Sandpiper		
Diamond Firetail		L
Elegant Parrot		
Fairy Prion	VU	
Glossy Black-Cockatoo		L
Great Egret		L
Greater Sand Plover		
Grey Goshawk		N
Grey-fronted Honeyeater		
Grey-headed Albatross	VU	L
Ground Cuckoo-shrike		L
Hardhead		
Hooded Plover		L
Inland Dotterel		
Lesser Sand Plover		
Lewin's Rail		L
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross		L
Little Tern		L
Magpie Goose (reintroduced)	N	
Mitchell's Cockatoo		L
Mallee Emu-wren	VU	L
Musk Duck		
Painted Honeyeater		L
Powerful Owl		L
Purple-gaped Honeyeater		
Red-chested Button-quail		L
Regent Parrot	VU	L
Royal Albatross	VU	L*
Royal Spoonbill		
Scarlet-chested Parrot		N
Shy Albatross	VU	L
Sooty Albatross	VU	L
Sooty Owl		L
Southern Giant-Petrel	EN	L
Speckled Warbler		L
Spotted Bowerbird		L
Square-tailed Kite		L
Whimbrel		
White-bellied Sea-Eagle		L
White-browed Treecreeper		L
Wood Sandpiper		
Yellow-nosed Albatross		L*

Near Threatened

Australian Pratincole		
Azure Kingfisher		
Black-chinned Honeyeater		
Black-eared Cuckoo		
Black-faced Cormorant		
Brown Quail		
BrownTreecreeper (south -eastern subspecies)		
Cape Barren Goose		
Caspian Tern		L
Chestnut Quail-thrush		
Common Diving-Petrel		
Crested Bellbird		L
Diamond Dove		L
Eastern Curlew		
Ibis Plover		
Hooded Robin		L
Latham's Snipe		
Little Button Quail		
Nankeen Night Heron		
Northern Giant-Petrel	VU	L
Pacific Golden Plover		
Pacific Gull		
Pectoral Sandpiper		
Pied Cormorant		
Red Knot		
Red-backed Kingfisher		
Rufous Bristlebird (Coorong subspecies)		L
Rufous Bristlebird (Otways subspecies)		L
Rufous Fieldwren		
Sanderling		
Slender-billed Thornbill		L
Sooty Oystercatcher		
Spotted Harrier		
Spotted Quail-thrush		
Striated Grasswren		
Turquoise Parrot		L
Whiskered Tern		
White-faced Storm-Petrel		

White-fronted Tern
White-winged Black Tern

Reptiles

Regionally Extinct
Small-scaled Snake

Critically Endangered

Alpine Egernia		N
Water Skink		L
Beaked Gecko		L
Corangamite Water Skink	EN	L
Grasslands Earless Dragon	EN	L
Heath Skink		L
Hooded Scaly-foot		L
Leathery Turtle	VU	L
Millewa Skink		L

Endangered

Alpine Bog Skink		L
Alpine She-oak Skink		L
Broad-shelled Turtle		N
Carpet Python		L
Diamond Python		L
Lined Earless Dragon		L
Mueller's Skink		L
Pink-tailed Worm-lizard	VU	L
Red-naped Snake		L
Samphire Skink		L
Striped Legless lizard	VU	L

Vulnerable

Bardick		L
Curl Snake		
Lace Monitor		
Port Lincoln Snake		L
Rosenberg's Goanna		L
Swamp Skink		L

Data Deficient

Bearded Dragon		
Common Death Adder		L
Mountain Dragon Angelsea form		
Mountain Dragon Grampians form		
Mountain Egernia		
Nobbi		
Western Blue-tongued lizard		
Western Brown Snake		

Near Threatened

Bandy Bandy		L
Coral Snake		
Desert Skink		
Eastern She-oak Skink		L
Eastern Water Skink		
Four-toed Skink		
Glossy Grass Skink		
Mallee Worm-lizard		L
Striped Worm-lizard		L
Tessellated Gecko		
Woodland Blind Snake		
Yellow-faced Whip Snake		

Amphibians

Critically Endangered

Alpine Tree Frog	VU	L
Baw Baw Frog	EN	L
Booroolong Tree Frog		L
Giant Bullfrog		L
Southern Barred Frog	VU	L
Spotted Tree Frog	EN	L
Endangered		
Brown Toadlet		
Southern Toadlet	VU	L

Vulnerable

Giant Burrowing Frog	VU	L
Southern Toadlet		

Data Deficient

Barking Marsh Frog		
Large Brown Tree Frog	VU	L
Martin's Toadlet		
Rugose Toadlet		L
Tyler's Toadlet		

Near threatened

Green & Golden Bell Frog	VU	L

Mammals

Extinct

Basalt Plains Mouse	EX	L
Brush-tailed Bettong (eastern subspecies)	EX	L
Southern Bettong (mainland subspecies)	EX	L
Eastern Hare Wallaby	EX	L
Lesser Stick-nest Rat	EX	L
Pig-footed Bandicoot	EX	L
Short-nosed bandicoot (inland form)	EX	L
Toolache Wallaby	EX	I
Western Barred Bandicoot (eastern subspecies)	EX	L
White-footed Rabbit Rat	EX	I

Regionally Extinct

Bolam's Mouse		I
Bridled Nailtail Wallaby	EN	L
Desert Mouse		I
Eastern Quoll		L
Greater Stick-nest Rat	VU	I
Red-tailed Phascogale	EN	L
Rufous Bettong		L
Rufous-bellied Pademelon	L	
Western Quoll	VU	I

Critically Endangered

Blue Whale	EN	L
Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby	VU	L
Eastern Barred Bandicoot	EN	L
Eastern Wallaroo		L
Southern Right Whale	EN	L

Endangered

Leadbeater's Possum	EN	L
Bottlenose Dolphin (Port Phillip population)		N
Common Bent-wing Bat (southern subspecies)	CD	L
Long-footed Potoroo	EN	L
Long-nosed Potoroo	VU	L
Mountain Pygmy Possum	EN	L
New Holland Mouse		L
Smoky Mouse	EN	L
Spot-tailed Quoll	VU	L
Squirrel Glider		L

Vulnerable

Brush-tailed Phascogale		L
Common Bent-wing Bat (eastern subspecies)		L
Common Dunnart		
Eastern Horseshoe Bat		L
Greater Long-eared Bat	VU	L
Grey-headed Flying-fox	VU	L
Humpback Whale	VU	L
White-footed Dunnart		N

Data Deficient

Dingo		

Near Threatened

Broad-toothed Rat		
Fat-tailed Dunnart		
Gile's Planigale		L
Heath Mouse	VU	L
Little Pygmy Possum		
Mallee Ningaui		
Mitchell's Hopping Mouse		
New Zealand Fur Seal		
Red Kangaroo		
Silky Mouse		
Southern Brown Bandicoot	EN	I
Southern Myotis		L
Swamp Antechinus		
Western Pygmy Possum		

CFNC Inc 28 July, 2004

Our stops at Nine Mile Bore just before Eulo were a disappointment because there was so much water lying around we only saw two Black-fronted Dotterels and a Magpie. Most of the Leopardwoods near the bore were quite dead, but wattles were coming into flower.

With the Spotted Bowerbirds and babblers nowhere to be seen in the Eulo township and the Paroo honey scarce and expensive, I was becoming gloomier and gloomier, but our stay at Thargominda and our visit to Bindagolly still proved to be enjoyable. (The storekeeper at Eulo is the local apiarist, and has a glass fronted working hive built into the wall of the shop).

Thargominda was the third town in the world, after London and Paris, to have street lighting (driven by a generator linked to a turbine on the bore). In those days the water came to the surface at 88° C, but now the Artesian basin is lowering, the pressure is much less, and the water is only 56° C as it comes to the surface. There is a new bore for the newer part of the township now, with cooling ponds, and the bore drains run out for kilometers to nearby properties and businesses. The townspeople do not shower when the generator is started for a demonstration because once the water is sent through the turbine the hot water to the older part of town cuts out!

We walked along the river in the morning and found quite a few birds, including lots of White-browed and some Black-faced Woodswallows, Whistling Kites and Mallee Ringnecks. Lignum, Coolibahs and River Coobahs were in flower. In the afternoon we walked around the township and visited a garden which had numerous varieties of figs, as well as other exotics and natives. I added Zebra Finches, Banded White-faces, Mistletoebirds, more Blue-faced Honeyeaters to my list - and of course, more Apostlebirds.

Next day we stopped at Lake Bindagolly and driving into the parking area there were two Major Mitchell's Cockatoos feeding by the side of the track. Along the walking track, I had good sightings of several White-winged Wrens (including two males) and several Variegated Wrens (including one male) which quite made my day. We also saw a Pied Honeyeater and Chestnut-rumped Thornbills there and Olearia pimelosum and two Myoporums in flower, M. acuminatium and M. desertii (the Elengowan Poison Bush or Turkey Bush, according to the Ranger).

Almost back to Eulo we drove down to the Billabong (along a hair-raising track that had been torn up in places after the flood), which was really worthwhile as there were quite a number birds there, including both spoonbills, Budgerigars, Darters, Hardheads and Pink-eared Ducks. There was a mass of a white Pilotis species and Acacia cambagei (Gidgee) in flower, too.

We finally got into Cunnamulla about 4.30, feeling very tired, despite only having travelled about 200kms for the day, and settled for fish and chips for tea from the little store over the road from the Caravan Park.

Rita Mills

Observations

Thirty-eight kangaroos sighted in Matheson Road. Ern Perkins.

A flock of Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos took George Broadway by surprise while he was standing at the kitchen sink. He hurried outside hoping they would land in the large trees in his garden but they continued on down Saint Street.

Helen Morris also sighted a group of 50 or more Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos flying overhead.

Four or five species of honeyeaters, including White-naped, White-eared and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters were seen pulling bark in search of lerps and other food. Chris Morris.

Wedge-tailed Eagle. Dianne Thomson reported seeing a large Wedge-tailed Eagle fly low over her house as she sat drinking tea on the verandah very early one morning. Some days later, again around sunrise, Dianne noted that as a pale breasted raptor of some kind flew over at tree height, it triggered off a wave of alarm calls in the surrounding bush.

Owlet Nightjars have returned to Sage Cottage, Fryerstown. Richard Piesse.

Rainbow Lorikeets. Debbie Worland sighted four Rainbow Lorikeets on her property this morning 6/7/04.

Straw-necked Ibis (16) feeding on the river flats and on the hillside at Barkers Creek. Geraldine Harris.

Mixed Flock of small birds including Red-browed Finches, Thornbills, Yellow-tufted and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters seen along Barkers Creek at lunchtime – possibly attracted to insects? Rita Mills

A flock of Pied Currawong was a new sighting in his vacinity for George Broadway.

Large numbers of Wattlebirds are generally being reported as very common in gardens.

Silver Gull seen flying across Barkers Street towards Ellamatta. Rita Mills

Weeds. Concern expressed at the presence of Convolvulus and Bridal Creeper in the newly planted area of the Botanic Gardens.

Golden Wattle (Acacia Pycnantha) is flowering. Richard Piesse

Chewton Plantings. A good ¾ survival rate for plantings at Golden Point despite less than favourable conditions during drought. Richard Piesse.

For National Tree Planting Day grasses are to be planted near the creek course and Debbie Worland will be planting trees and talking with Chewton primary students about Swift Parrots and how to improve the habitat for such birds.

From the Business Meeting 22/7/04

Welcome to new member: Joy Wetherill

Farewell to:

Frank and Ethel Blake, longterm members who have been a valuable source of information in the group over many years, are moving to Shepparton to be nearer to their daughter.

Hidetoshi (Mikey) Kudo, a very pleasant and enthusiastic member of the group, is returning to Japan with his family.
We wish you well in your new locations.

Swift Parrots. The Erin Court site has been officially recognised by Debbie Saunders, The Swift Parrot Recovery Officer in Canberra, as the first recorded site on the mainland where these birds regularly visit over winter. Local FN member Debbie Worland has expressed concern that despite this recognition more effort is needed to ensure that this site is valued and protected. An official FN club letter containing all available information concerning Swift parrots in the area is being drafted to ensure key govt. and council employees are fully informed on this matter. Richard Piesse commended Debbie for her persistence and in particular for providing such excellent ongoing records of the Swift Parrots at the site.

Roadside Surveys will commence again soon. Target plants should be starting to appear during August.

Extra Events for your Calendar

Mon Aug 30- Wed Sept 1. Club Visit to Chiltern NP and Regent Honeyeater Territory. Details in July Newsletter. If interested please contact Ern Perkins.

Friday, Sept. 3. Ballarat FN Club are hosting the **Annual Stella Bedggood Memorial Lecture**. "Healthy Rivers" Paul Sinclair. Ballarat Horticultural Centre, Cnr Gillies and Gregory St., Ballarat at 8pm. Admission free, supper provided.

Sat. 18 and Sun. 19 Sept. WildFlower Show: 10am – 4pm. At the Senior Citizens rooms, Old High St (behind the Fire station), Golden Square. Arranged by the Bendigo Field Naturalists Club and the Bendigo Native Plant Group. Guided walks in the Indigenous garden at 11am and 2pm each day. Admission $2, children free.

Fri 29 October to Tues 2 November (cup weekend) **SE Australian Naturalists Association Campout at Little Desert Nature Lodge**
Accommodation ranges from ensuite rooms and bunkrooms to camping sites.
It will be a great way to meet other naturalists and to see some of the beautiful Little Desert with expert guides. Book by 30/8/04.Further information is available from Ern Perkins.

Articles Welcome - Articles, reports and observations can be left at Tonks Bros in Barkers St. or sent to Geraldine Harris, P.O.Box 184, Castlemaine, 3450,
Ph. 54742244, gedharris @castlemaine.net
Articles need to be submitted by the 4th Thursday of the month.
Disclaimer - The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Club.

Castlemaine Field Naturalists Programme - August, 2004.

General meetings are held in the Uniting Church (UCA) hall (enter from Lyttleton St.) at 8.00 pm on the second Friday of each month, except January.
Excursions are usually on the Saturday following the general meeting and leave promptly at the times stated from The Octopus, opposite Castle Motel, Duke Street. Outdoor excursions are likely to be cancelled in extreme weather conditions. There are NO excursions on total fire ban days. BYO afternoon and morning tea.
Business meetings are held at 27 Doveton Street on the 4th Thursday of each month, except December, at 7.30 pm. All members are invited to attend.
VISITORS ARE WELCOME AT CLUB MEETINGS AND EXCURSIONS.

Fri. Aug. 13. ***Local Geology.*** Clive Willman. UCA Hall, 8pm.
Sat. Aug. 14. ***Jackass Flat Reserve – White Hills.*** Leader: Ern Perkins. A walk of about 3km in the Reserve. Leave the Octopus (opposite the motel) at 1.30pm sharp or meet at 2.05pm at Lake Weeroona (near the toilet block). We will park at the Avery's Road entrance to Jackass Flat. Bring stout walking shoes.
Thu. Aug. 26. ***Broom Pull.*** Meet at the Mary St/Froomes Rd. corner at 9am. Wear sturdy footwear, gloves, hat etc. Bring drinks and morning tea.
Mon Aug 30- Wed Sept 1. ***Club Visit to Chiltern National Park.*** Details, July p7.
Fri. Sep. 10. ***Conserving Forest Wildlife.*** Richard Loyn, Arthur Rylah Institute. UCA Hall, 8pm.
Sat. Sep. 11. ***Mandurang – Greater Bendigo National Park.*** Leader: Rita Mills. Leave the Octopus at 1.30pm sharp.
Wed. Sep. 15. ***Wednesday Evening Wildflower Walks*** commence. Leaving the Octopus at 4pm sharp. Back in town by 5.30pm. Other walks on 23/9, 29/9, 6/10, 13/10.
Fri. Oct. 8. ***Macquarie Island and Penguins.*** Pauline Riley. UCA Hall, 8pm
Sat. Oct. 9. ***Humbolt – Taradale/Drummond Road.*** Leader: Ern Perkins, Ph 5472 3124 . Leave the Octopus at 1.30 sharp.
Fri. Nov.12. ***Wombat Community Forest Management*** Tim Anderson.UCA Hall 8pm
Sat. Nov.13. ***South German Mine Area, Maldon.*** Leader: Ern Perkins. Leave Octopus at 1.30pm sharp. Good birding -bring binoculars.

2004 Committee - Chris Morris (President) Ph. 9885 4221; Rita Mills (Vice President and Public Officer) Ph. 54724553; George Broadway (Secretary) Ph. 5472 2513; Hans van Gemert (Treasurer) Ph. 5472 1082; Geraldine Harris (Newsletter Ed.) Ph. 5474 2244; Ern Perkins Ph. 5472 3124; Richard Piesse; Athol Dorman and Nigel Harland.

Subscriptions for 2004
Ordinary membership: Single $22, Family $30
Pensioner or student: Single $19, Family $24
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